

SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET

Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

February, 2002

This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the Sixth Hampden Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2001.

Residents of Sixth Hampden Representative District

Treatment Admissions:

In FY 2001, there were 120,687 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts. Of these, 2.7% (3,297) reside in the Sixth Hampden Representative District. Due to budget cuts in FY 2002, BSAS estimates that 19% (626) of Sixth Hampden Representative District residents will not be able to access treatment services. **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.**

- In FY 2001, 70% of admissions from the Sixth Hampden Representative District were male and 29.9% were female.
- Over 59.7% of admissions were between the ages of 21-39.
- 58.8% of admissions were white non-Latino, 3.8% were black non-Latino, 36% were Latino, and 0.78% were other racial categories.
- 62.4% of those admitted to treatment were never married, 12.9% were married, and 16.5% reported not to be married now.
- 40.7% of admissions had less than high school education, 39.97% completed high school, and 19.9% had more than high school education.
- 23% of those admitted to treatment were employed.
- 7.7% of those admitted were homeless.
- 14% of admissions had prior mental health treatment.

Substances Used in Past Year:

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as 'polydrug' or 'polysubstance' use. For example, individuals who use cocaine, crack and heroin also may report the use of either alcohol and/or marijuana.

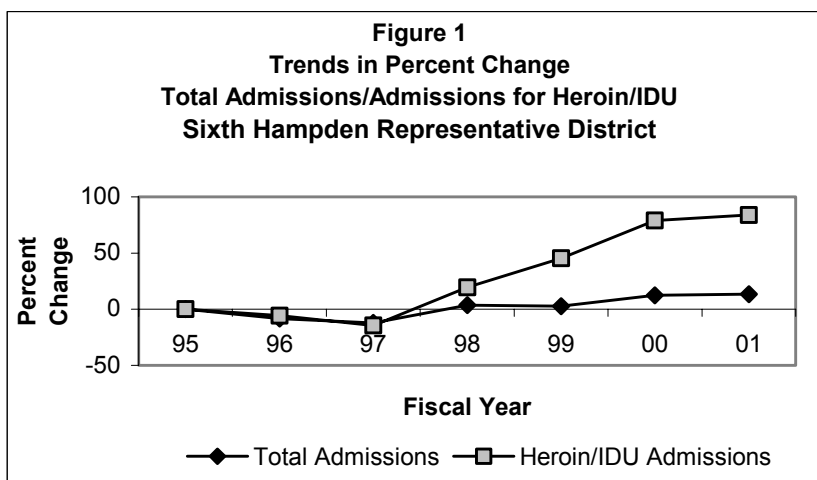
- Table 1 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, including the prevalence of injection drug use (IDU) in the Sixth Hampden Representative District. Injection drug users (or IDU's) are individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

Table 1 Annual Admissions by Substance Used FY 1995 – FY 2001							
Sixth Hampden Representative District							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
FY '95	2,907	2,340	722	794	839	822	534
FY '96	2,665	2,131	750	770	761	822	455
FY '97	2,557	2,000	686	689	590	772	389
FY '98	3,011	2,321	803	779	556	1,035	584
FY '99	2,988	2,234	952	882	673	1,215	756
FY '00	3,270	2,362	984	866	705	1,488	939
FY '01	3,297	2,292	954	774	738	1,562	933

- Since FY 1995, residents of Sixth Hampden Representative District reported a steady increase in marijuana and heroin use. Marijuana use increased by 32% and heroin use by 90%, while crack use decreased by 12%, and, alcohol and cocaine use remained steady.

Heroin and Injection Drug Use:

Figure 1 below shows the proportional increases in all admissions in the Sixth Hampden Representative District and the proportional increase in admissions reporting heroin and injection drug use, a factor driving increases in HIV¹.



- Total treatment admission for all modalities rose 13% between FY 1995 and FY 2001. During the same period, admissions for heroin and injection drug use treatment increased by 84%.

Primary Substance of Use:

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use which is the substance currently causing them the most problems.

- Table 2 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the Sixth Hampden Representative District.

	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	40.4%	42.7%	6.4%	2.0%	5.1%
State	46.4%	35.9%	6.5%	3.8%	3.4%

- While marijuana as a primary drug of use in your Representative District was level with the State average, heroin and crack as a primary drug was higher, and alcohol and cocaine was lower within your District.

¹ The Schneider Institute for Health Policy, Brandeis University, 2000